

BILLINGS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – JUNE 2, 2020
UNOFFICIAL DRAFT

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 P.M. with Commissioners Kessel and Kasian in attendance.

Others were present during portions of the meeting: Sheriff Pat Rummel, Major Dean Wyckoff, Fire Chief Kyle Shockley, Tax & Zoning Director Stacey Swanson, Tax & Zoning Deputy Julianna Hammerstrom, Ambulance Directors Mitch Gilseth & Kyle Michels, Road Superintendent Jeff Iverson, Deputy Auditor/Treasurer Connie Hartman, Shae Peplinski, Danielle O'Brien from Billings County Schools, and Andrew Krebs from KLJ

Kessel moved to approve the minutes from the May 5th, 2020 regular meeting. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Tax & Zoning Director Stacey Swanson and Deputy Julianna Hammerstrom went over the Board of Equalization changes for the 2020 taxes. This meeting stayed open to the public for an hour. She presented the board with handouts to follow along with as she went over everything. Kessel moved to approved the tax changes. Kasian seconded. All voted aye.

Danielle O'Brien, teacher in Fairfield, and Shae Peplinski, Principle of Billings County Schools, discussed with commission that the library will be opening to the public and they will be following state regulations regarding COVID-19 and making sure social distancing is still in effect. They are asking the board if they would like to have the say on how the library is run since they help fund the library or if it could be up to the schools to make the decisions as long as protocol is followed. The commission agreed that the school could make the decisions and if something comes up, they can always come back.

Tax & Zoning Director Stacey Swanson presented 3 ARW Applications that were approved with conditions by the Road Superintendent.

- Medora Grazing Association – Sections 23-144-101 for an agricultural water pipeline along Magpie Rd.
- Travis Dukart – Sections 1-137-100 for a construction permit 2020-2 along 132nd Ave SW
- McKenzie Electric Coop – Sections 5-144-102 for a utility permit along Beaver Creek Road.

Stacey Swanson also presented the 2-year contract that needs to be signed by commission for State Radio. The contract will increase \$.50 this year and \$.02 next year.

Connie Hartman asked the commission if they would agree with opening the museum following guidelines for COVID-19. The museum has been closed since the courthouse closed to the public and they would like to reopen. There were some concerns about the workers being exposed to COVID-19 so Pat Rummel suggested Southwest District Health officer Kevin Pavlish come do a walk through and inspection to make sure the museum will be ok to open. The board is leaving it up to Kevin's findings on if it will open or not.

Cost of Living adjustment will be tabled until the next meeting.

KLJ's Andrew Krebs gave his monthly report on projects that are on going and future projects.

Road Superintendent Jeff Iverson gave his monthly report. He stated that they need to fix a few culverts around the county that have rusted out. Will be replacing the pipe. The county will be chip sealing on June 3rd starting in Fryburg to East River Road to the city of Medora. Marcia is working with Jeff to get letters out to land owners for changes that will be made on some of the roads. Will be giving Billings County resident excess dirt from section 15 on 10th St to fill in some corrosion on his road and that will clean up the ditch as well. Dixies pit is reclaimed. Will need the river to go down a little bit more to clean up the river crossings.

Ambulance Directors Mitch Gilseth and Kyle Michels gave their monthly report. Summer is approaching which means more call outs. The numbers are slowing going up. The Ford Chassy's will be here July 20th. And looking at September for the new ambulance since the company just started up production again. The Ambulance and Sheriff's office received their Ozone machines.

Sheriff Pat Rummel gave his monthly report. Pat gave the commission a heads up that some of the community members will be calling stating their concerns about the riots taking place around the country and that a few are close to home. The Sheriff's office will be helping out Stark County and Dickinson Police with the peaceful protest that will be taking place that afternoon. Frank Lukowski is checking social media to make sure that the riots do not get close to Medora. The community has also been very good about calling in controlled burns.

Fire Chief Kyle Shockley came to the commission with some ideas to run across them. The fire department has \$184,000 to put towards a new fire truck in Fairfield. Kyle is asking the commission if they would be willing to fund all new electric equipment for the new truck since all the old equipment is outdated. It is about \$65,000 to update the airbags and tools. He is asking that we also update the equipment in Medora as well since that too is

outdated. He is asking the commission to fund the \$130,000 for the new equipment. Kyle also brought up the idea of possibly giving his volunteers a retirement plan. Would be \$1,000 a year towards retirement as long as they follow the point system guidelines. The board will table both questions until they have a full quorum.

Commissioner Mike Kasian will be appointed on the Canvassing Board for the up coming election June 9th, 2020. Canvassing will take place June 15, 2020 at 10:00am. Kessel moved to appoint Kasian on the canvassing board.

The following claims were approved for payment. Kessel moved to approve, Kasian seconded. All voted aye:

The board approved the revenue vouchers for the month of May: Recorder \$1,520.00; Zoning \$6,168.61; Court \$140.00; Sheriff \$33.00, EMS \$1,397.47.

Revenues for materials and/or services rendered in May: Mike Klatt \$416.25 scoria & hauling; Froehlich Farms \$75.60 bridge plank; Curt Miller \$386.25 scoria & hauling; Cory Smith \$1,541.25 scoria & hauling; City of Belfield \$2,728.00 road oil; Jason Downing \$366.00 scoria & hauling. WEED SPRAYING: Doug & Katie Oe \$40.10, Perry Redmond \$28.19, Tim Loh \$55.44

Revenues for the month of May: Sheriff \$7,438.34 permits, Highway Distribution \$25,806.57 (two months); Oil & Gas Production Tax \$66,073.60; Royalties \$10,964.69; Unorganized Oil & Gas Production Tax \$4,409.90; Interest \$4,710.15; Cash Bar permit \$25.00.

Payroll in the following amounts was approved for May: General Fund \$176,073.39; Road and Bridge Fund \$126,125.07; Weed Fund \$12,573.92.

With there being no further business, the meeting ended at 3:25 P.M.

Michael Kasian, Vice-Chairman

Attest: _____

Marcia Lamb, Auditor/Treasurer